(c) Fresh *batta* for second or subsequent summonses.

(d) Time for the payment of process fees for the issue of summonses in civil courts.

(a) Messrs. V. Raghavachar, Mysore Taluk, and S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga Municipality.

(b) Mr. Lakshminaranappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk.

(c) and (d) Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga Municipality.

question was referred to the Chief Court. Final orders may be passed early.

(ii) The process servers may be required to obtain the signatures of patel and shanbhog of every village wherein the processes are served on the parties.

(c) The rule whereby parties are required to deposit fresh batta, whether the previous deposit was spent or not, works as a hardship on the parties. The Central *Nazir* may be directed to certify on each process whether the batta was or was not spent. If it is known when the case is taken up that the *batta* has not been spent, the party will simply pay the process fee and request that the unspent *batta* may be utilized.

(d) If the issue of summonses within a week after the party gives his statement in civil courts is not secured, 2½ times the fees otherwise payable are levied. This puts parties to heavy loss. At least ten days' time may be granted if the date of hearing should be after a month and only double the fees levied as penalty for delay.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 37.

Appointment of paid copyists.

Mr. Lakshminaranappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Parties in civil and criminal cases are unable to pay the present heavy copying fees. Paid copyists may be employed on a fixed salary and the present copying fees reduced by one-half. In places where the income is not adequate to meet the salary of the man, the clerks concerned may write copies, taking half the present fees.

Reply of Government.—The fees which copyists now get are very low and it is impracticable to reduce them further.

SUBJECT No. 38.

Dismissal of criminal complaints.

Mr. Lakshminaranappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In criminal courts, a case is dismissed if the complainant does not appear before the court when called. In taluks, the magistrates sometimes attend office at 11 A.M. and at other times at 2 P.M. So it is prayed that the time for dismissing the complaints may be fixed at 5 P.M.

Reply of Government.—It is impossible to make rules for such matters. If specific cases of wilful dismissal of complaints by resorting to such expedients are brought to the notice of Government, suitable disciplinary action will be taken.

SUBJECT No. 39.

Institution fees in civil suits.

Messrs. Lakshminaranappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk; and M. C. Rangaiengar, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The practice in civil courts is to levy full institution fee when suits are filed. In cases in which half the institution fee is ordered to be refunded, parties are put to much inconvenience and cost. So half the fee may be levied at the time of institution and

the other half after the defendant files his defence. Similar provisions are contained in the Presidency Small Cause Courts Act.

Reply of Government.—The matter will be referred to the Chief Court.

SUBJECT No. 40.

Reduction of stamp-duty on partition deeds.

Messrs. Linge Gowda and Amble Anniah Pandit, Mysore District Board.

Summary of discussion.—Partition deeds are not now generally executed on account of the heavy stamp-duty payable on them. Consequently many cases are brought before civil and criminal courts. The stamp-duty on them may be fixed at Rs. 2-8-0 for the first thousand and one rupee for every 500 up to Rs. 5,000.

Most of the partition deeds executed between poor people are on plain paper and if possible permission to use plain paper may be given in such cases.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 41.

Reduction of fees for copies of judgments of criminal courts.

Messrs. Lakshminaranappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk, and A. Ramanna, Yedatore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—To obtain certified copies of judgments of criminal courts, the parties have to pay a stamp fee at eight annas for every 360 words. In the case of the judgments of civil courts, a fee of only eight annas is levied for copies of judgments, whatever their length might be. As the rate fixed for copies of judgments of criminal courts is very heavy, it may be reduced to that fixed for copies of judgments of civil courts.

Reply of Government.—The matter will be again considered.

SUBJECT No. 42.

Heirship certificates.

Messrs. C. Vaman Rao and N. Subba Rao, Nagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Prior to the year 1901, no stamp fee was payable for obtaining heirship certificates when the property involved was below Rs. 1,000. A stamp fee of 2 per cent of the value of the property involved is now charged irrespective of the value of the property. As this acts as a hardship to the poorer classes of people, the old rule may be brought into force.

Reply of Government.—The subject has been finally decided last year.

SUBJECT No. 43.

Production of *khate* extracts in civil cases.

Mr. Syed Mohadeen Sab, Mysore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The civil courts require extracts from *khate* in cases of sale of lands mortgaged to the plaintiff. As the particulars of the lands are given in the mortgage deed itself, the production of *khate* extracts may be dispensed with.

Reply of Government.—Will be referred to the Chief Court.

SUBJECT No. 44.

Batta to witnesses in criminal courts.

(*a*) Messrs. C. Vaman Rao and N. Subba Rao, Nagar Taluk.

(*b*) Mr. Seshachala Jois, Bannur Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Witnesses in criminal courts are not paid *batta*. As the attendance in courts involves an interruption of their regular business and additional expenditure, they may be given *batta* at the rates allowed to witnesses in civil courts. If the court cannot defray the expenses the parties may be made to pay them.